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THE ROCKPORT Observer

FAIRVIEW PARK & ROCKY RIVER COMMUNITIES | VOL 02, ISSUE 6 | DECEMBER 2014

Jamie L. Mason Appointed Director of RRPL

By Kitty Sommers

The Rocky River Public Library Board of Trustees recently announced that Jamie L. Mason is the new director of the library. "I am very pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees appointed



Jamie L. Mason is Rocky River Public Library's new director.

Jamie Mason as director," said Rocky River Public Library Board President Audra Bednarski. "We have great confidence in Jamie's leadership skills, his vision for the library, and his concern for our staff," she said.

Mason has been the library's interim director since July 2014. Prior to this, Mason served as the library's deputy director since 2009. Mason has 11 years' experience in libraries, including Avon Lake Public Library, where he was responsible for the network and computers.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to lead Rocky River Public Library into the future," said Mason. "I have adored the library and its staff since coming here in 2009. There are many exciting things ahead for this community and the library. It's a great place to work!", said Mason.

Mason earned his MLIS from Kent State University. He serves on the board

RRPL Director page 2

Grandma's Christmas Tree

By Peggy Calvey Patton

If I stare at the picture long enough, I can feel the draft from the windows behind the plastic covered couch, see the family portrait sitting on the TV set, and smell the turkey in the oven. Christmas Day at Grandma's in the 1960s.

We would meet after mass and crowd into Grandma's small house on Kirton Avenue. The tree was always the center of discussion. It was aluminum - you could see right through it. A pitifully under-decorated tree hung with the few ornaments that survived our youth.

When we decorated the trees in our youth, the first thing we did was to lay out the strings of temperamental lights. The 12 bulbs never all lit, so each had to be tested. And after all 12 were turned or replaced, a miracle happened! The string of lights twinkled blue, red, yellow, white and green.

But Grandma's tree was different. All you had to do was plug in the disco-type rotating lamp, the aluminum tree came alive with at least six different colors.

One year, my Dad decided to pick up the Christmas tree and teach us how to save money at the same time. It was probably around December 23. He walked up to Lorain Street and got the bar stool nearest the window in Garry Owens Irish Pub at West 111 Street and Lorain, which was conveniently located across the street from a tree lot. His plan was to wait until the lot was nearly sold out so that he could get a tree really cheap.

Time must have slipped away from him. When he realized that the tree lot was closing, he ran across the street to begin bargaining. He knew the value of a dollar after living through the Depression and he spent his money wisely.

Dinner was over when he got back to our house on West 112 Street and did he have a surprise for us. Not one tree, but two! They were almost bare sticks with a few branches. The tree lot owner wanted to go home so he gave my Dad a real deal. Both trees for the price of one! My Dad thought that once they were tied together and decorated, no one would know the difference.

Given a wife and four daughters crying and objecting, he caved in. The



Grandma's Tree

Photo source: besthousedesign.com

trees never left the back porch. The next day my mother, brother Jack and sister Coletta went to a different lot and got a beautiful tree. Dad never said a word about his bargain, and he never went tree shopping again.

Generally, everyone used a small tin red-and-green tree stand sold at the dime store. The trees never fit into them. These stands were always too narrow for the tree, no matter how much shaving and trimming was done. Thus, the tree was never secure or straight up, so many people tied the tree to a curtain rod or just nailed a heavy string of twine to the wall.

Tinsel was the finishing touch of tree trimming. There are two types of tinsel hangers: the drapers and the tossers. My sister Coletta and I were drapers who carefully put each strand of tinsel lovingly on the branches. My brother Jack and my sister Eleanor were tossers. They would take delight in balling up a batch of tinsel and firing it at the tree, ruining the effect of our neat draping. This always erupted into a fight.

By Christmas morning, however, the tree always looked beautiful despite all the problems. As for Grandma's plain and simple aluminum tree, I'm sure you can understand why we always loved it. •

Peggy Calvey Patton is a free lance writer. She lives in West Park.



Picture of Downtown Cleveland at sunset taken by a drone.

"Drones" to Bring Jobs to Fairview Park

By Michael Hach

It's been a long time since Cleveland has seen any new innovation. Ever since the industrial days of LTV Steel, our city has been starving for new advancements in the job sector. It would only make sense that the time is now, given the

way things are now going for our city - the RNC convention, LeBron's return, and new developments downtown. What's next? Cleveland Aerial Media LLC. (a year old company) plans to be the pioneers and pave the path for new innovation in Fairview Park.

Drones page 2

Wishing Happy Holidays to You!

ROCKPORT FILES

RRPL Director from page 1

of the Ohio Public Library Information Network and was its president in 2012. Mason has also served on numerous committees with the Ohio Library Council. He is married to Erin, a teacher at Murray Ridge School in Lorain County, and has three children. •

Kitty Sommers is Director of Marketing at Rocky River Public Library.

Drones from page 1

Drones have been recently introduced to the public with advancements in technology, but one thing stops consumers from cashing in - the FAA. "Ohio is known as the birthplace of aviation, and we plan to keep it that way with this new drone technology," says Michael Hach. The company has had run-ins with the FAA in the past due to a TFR (Time Flight Restriction), but has been working closely with the local FAA office in North Olmsted. The company plans to maintain a friendly relationship and to one day set the example of how drones can be safely operated in accordance with FAA regulations.

Drone technology requires many different applications such as software development, mechanical engineering, and piloting abilities. Because of this, Cleveland Aerial Media LLC. plans to



expand and create new jobs in Fairview Park. "We plan to consider students at Fairview Park High School who are directly involved in robotics programs," says Anthony Serio.

Cleveland Aerial Media LLC. has many plans for using drone technology in the near future, including working with Fairview Park and Rocky River police departments. "Drones can potentially save an officer's life with surveillance technology," says Hach. The company has virtually taken over North East Ohio's real estate market, offering aerial photography that is much more affordable than traditional shots taken from aircrafts.

The area is already becoming a hot spot with companies such as Dronewerkx LLC stationed at the Lorain County Airport. The FAA forecasts that about 7,500 businesses employing unmanned aerial systems will be created in the U.S. in the next few years. Within the next decade, the drone industry is expected to generate nearly \$10 billion in the U.S. economy. •

Michael Hach and Anthony Serio are co-owners of Cleveland Aerial Media LLC.



Anthony Serio and Michael Hach with small drones.



Mr. & Mrs. Brian Byers

A Note from the Publisher

As I begin writing this month's Publisher's Note, the song *What a Difference a Day Makes* comes to mind. Reflecting on this past year and the many changes in my life—I realize how precious our time on this earth is, and how quickly it can slip away. Although I have received many blessings this year...I did not escape the loss of several special friends. I am also mindful of the fact that not everyone has been blessed with the magnitude of family and friends that I have.

So...my thought for this time of year is to remind all of us—there is little in our lives more valuable than family and friends. We all have busy lives, but we must take the time to let those special people know we are thinking of them. This morning on the *Today Show*, I listened to the vocal group, *Straight No Chaser*, perform the 'tongue-in-cheek' Christmas Love Song, *Text Me*—reminding me that there are many ways to communicate our feelings to each other.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the women whose friendship and dedication to this paper make it a reality each month—Carolyn Hildebrandt, Editor, Meg Greenwald, Business Development, and Angela Hammersmith, Designer. Also, as I prepared for my wedding over the past few months, Carolyn and Meg really covered several of my responsibilities. I am forever in their debt.

If you would indulge me here, Dear Reader...I would like to acknowledge my talented husband, whose writing collaboration has enhanced my skills...just another passion we share!

Thank you for picking this up, taking a look, and giving it a go. We hope you find something you enjoy and pass it along to a friend.

May your year be complete—by celebrating friends and family during the Holiday Season. Onward and Upward in 2015! Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year!

— LuAnn Leonard-Byers
Publisher

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Community news powered by the citizens of Rocky River & Fairview Park

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With a current circulation of 5,000 copies distributed to over 250 locations in the Fairview Park, Kamm's Corners, and Rocky River community and via our Web site, The Rockport Observer is a community media initiative whose mission is to involve, engage, inform and converse with neighbors in what was once known as Ohio's Rockport community. The views and opinions expressed in the publication do not necessarily reflect that of The Rockport Observer, its publisher or staff. Copyright 2014-The Rockport Observer, All right reserved. Any reproduction or use of the content within without expressed written consent is forbidden.

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PUBLISHER
LuAnn Leonard-Byers
L.Leonardrpo@gmail.com
440.941.7092

EDITOR
Carolyn Hildebrandt
C.Hildebrandtrpo@gmail.com

ADVERTISING SALES & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
Meg Greenwald
M.Greenwaldrpo@gmail.com

WRITING ENSEMBLE
Conda Boyd | Katherine Bulava
Cara Gallagher | Perry Haan
Michael Hach | Colleen Harding
Mark Herron | Kathy Kosiorek
Noreen Kyle | Bridget Lavelle
Daniel Makara | Barbara McGraw
Peggy Calvey Patton | Bryan Ruocco
Nikki Salupo | Christopher Shelini
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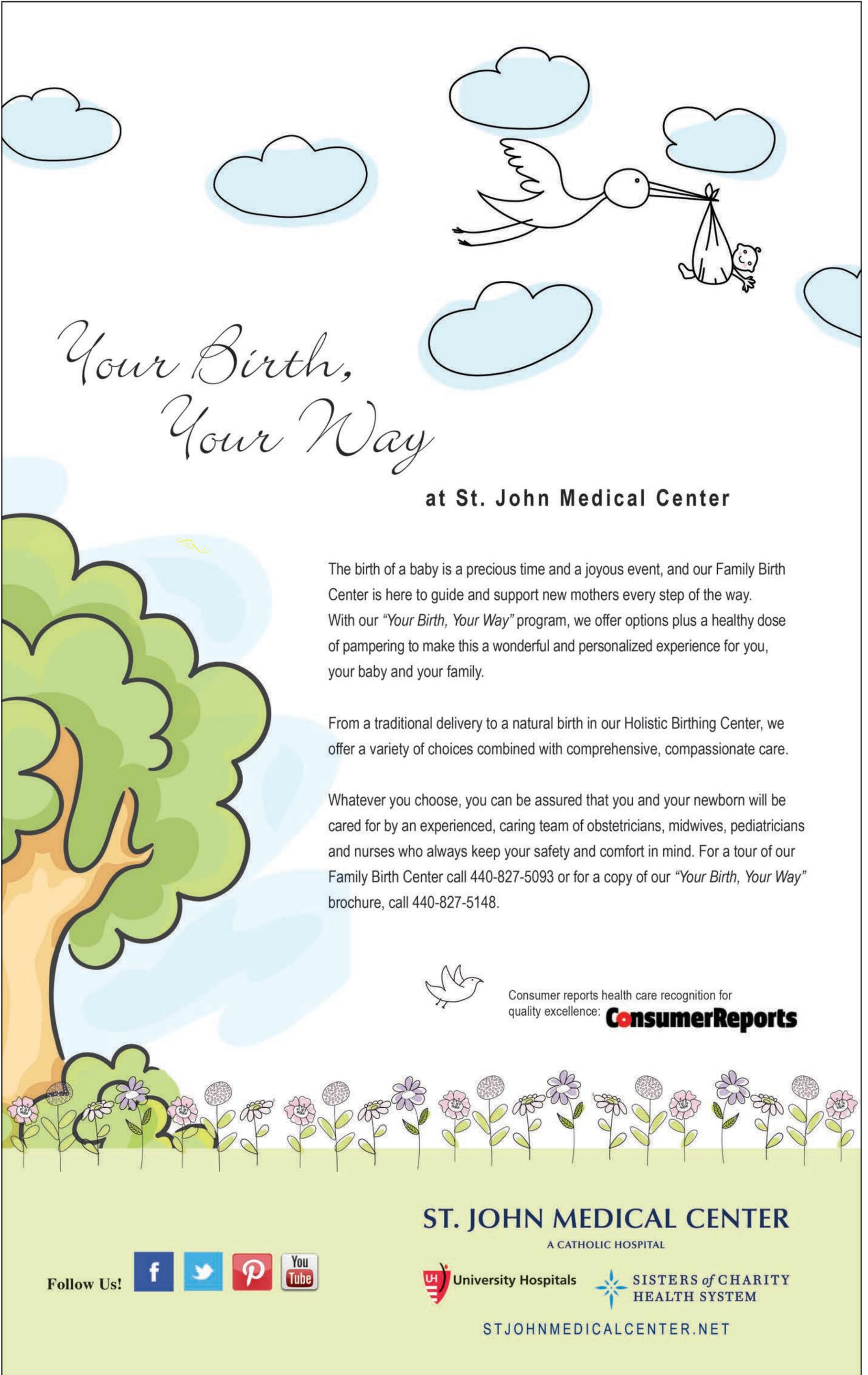
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LOCAL BUSINESS

Share Your Blessings...Fund a Tree

By Debbie Simone

Not every year...but every day we should count our blessings for what we have and what we have accomplished. I've taught my children... "be the best person you can and live your life to the fullest". One day you may be on top of the world and the next, you may be told you have cancer. Then the world becomes all about love, compassion, respect, hoping, and the will to survive. With that in mind, I would like to ask for the support of the community in our "Fund a Tree" event.

Two years ago, I made a theme tree for my sister who had survived breast cancer by 13 plus years, but then was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. She was at the Cleveland Clinic and I made her a pink and purple tree. She loved the tree so much and all the nurses went

crazy over it. Every cancer has a special month and color. I made a theme tree with the ribbon colors of her cancer.

I want to do the same for others struggling to survive by making their Christmas hospital stay a little more tolerable. I'm asking for donations of small trees (2-foot, lighted) and small ornaments. I've purchased several trees -white, silver, and green - at Walmart for about \$9.99. Most important, I need a place where volunteers can help make these trees. The decorated trees will be taken to cancer units in area hospitals.

I realize this is a hard time of year to ask for anything, given that most organizations are also asking for help and donations. I love working in Rocky River and I'm hoping that its residents will assist me in this event.

At my shop The Ritzy Chic, located at 1315 Linda Street in Rocky River, we

help and support a cancer survivor every month. This is a great way to give back to the community...I call it gifts that give back. Our holiday shop hours are Tuesday to Thursday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

During December, we will have several in-store promotions and sales. Our shop is filled with many estate items, including antique furniture, collectible glassware, barware and beer signs, vintage clothing, hats, jewelry and accessories, paintings, retro items and more. We donate a percentage of our sales to help a survivor. Stop in...you will be glad you did...and we are always glad to see you! Visit our website at www.theritzychic.com to see a sampling of our wares.

To donate or for additional information, there are many ways you can contact me: The Ritzy Chic at 440-331-5200, call or



text me at 440-382-6789, or email me at theritzychic@windstream.net.

Please give me a call and tell me how you can help make "Fund a Tree" a success. I thank you in advance for helping to brighten the holidays for cancer patients. •

Debbie Simone is the owner of The Ritzy Chic. The shop helps support cancer survivors through its consignments and sales.

Rocky River Meals on Wheels

By Barbara McGraw

Most people have heard of Meals on Wheels (MOW), but many do not know the particulars about this valuable community service.

The Rocky River Meals on Wheels is a volunteer-based organization whose mission is to prepare meals for those who find it difficult to shop for or prepare food. It has been proudly serving the Rocky River community since 1976. Recipients include older adults, and those of all ages who are ill, disabled or recovering from an injury or surgery. The program is also available to new mothers who may need help with meals after the birth of a baby. Meals can be provided for up to five days a week, long- or short-term.

The Rocky River MOW organization, a division of Westshore Meals on Wheels, is self-sustaining and receives no government subsidies. It is not a form of government assistance. Participants pay a low fee for nutritious, home-cooked meals Monday through Friday. The meal recipient, or other designated person, is billed at the end of each month for meals received during that month.

Menus emphasize fresh, healthy ingredients. Meals are prepared and delivered by a caring group of over



Rocky River MOW's Monday cook and volunteer kitchen staff put together another healthy meal.

80 dedicated volunteers. Each day's delivery includes a cold meal, consisting of a sandwich (or 1/2 sandwich and homemade soup), a salad, fruit, dessert

and milk; and a hot meal, which usually includes meat, vegetables, and a starch (potatoes, rice, noodles and/or roll). Hot meals are packaged in a microwavable

Meals on Wheels page 14

New Barber at Rockport Barber Styling

By Anthony L. Simeone

With a family lineage tracing her barbershop roots back to Italy, the newest addition to Rockport Barber Styling - Marie Simeone - is blending that heritage with her love for "All Things Cleveland" to create a welcoming environment for all ages.

A trip to Marie's chair at Rockport Barber Styling in Fairview Park's Ohliger Drug Store complex promises to be more than just a haircut. Marie's warmth, attention to detail and talents, which include the "old days" touch of a hot lather shave or a relaxing Lucky Tiger facial, are taking Rockport Barber Styling to new levels. You're almost guaranteed a pleasurable haircutting experience! For your next haircut, come into the shop where owner Matt and Marie keep the American barbershop tradition going strong.

Located at 21728 Lorain Road in Fairview Park (formerly Johnny's Hair Works), Rockport Barber Styling specializes in stylish cuts for men and children. The shop is open on Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. •

Anthony L. Simeone is a Cleveland Public School teacher. He resides in Rocky River.

Christmas is not as much about opening our presents as opening our hearts.

—Janice Maeditere

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LOCAL BUSINESS

The Importance of Dog Socialization

By Daniel Makara

Everyone from the veterinarian to the pizza delivery guy seems to tell the new owner of a puppy or dog that he or she needs to get the dog “socialized”. In the dog world, socialization is in every doggy magazine, training advertisement and Website. The message is absolutely right - socialization is very important.

While the message is clear, the how-tos and the dangers of improper socialization are usually not discussed. It’s a point that I often cover many times in my in-home dog and puppy training.

To see an example of improperly socializing a dog, you don’t have to go very far. Just head to the local dog park. What you will typically see is a new owner watching his dog run around with other dogs. Sometimes this works out perfectly, other times this may be the beginning of dog aggression.

For example, if a dog is a little more timid and less comfortable or outgoing than other dogs, the worst thing you can do is to put him or her in a pen full of other dogs! The more energetic playful dogs will run and jump on the timid puppy, thus creating a host of negative experiences. Unless someone familiar with dog stress signals such as a dog trainer is supervising and puts an immediate end to these negative experiences, the situation can turn ugly. The result can be the foundation for a dog-aggressive puppy.

Imprinting

Imprinting is the reason these negative experiences can make a dog-aggressive dog. Imprinting is a process that takes place from the time a puppy is born to until he is about 12-to-16-weeks old. Everything that happens during this timeframe becomes super important in establishing later routines and patterns. Ever seen a dog afraid of thunder? That dog was probably scared by a thunderstorm early in life and the owners mishandled the situation.

For this reason, people are quick to recommend socialization. If things go well, you have a dog-friendly dog! People always ask me during home consultations, “So what do I do then? How can I ensure that my puppy has good experiences with other dogs during this critical period?”

The answer is simple: Let your dog be around other dogs. However, keep him leashed and out of unsupervised play. Go to the dog park but don’t go inside it on the first visit. Jog around the outside of the fence. Your dog will see other dogs inside the fence playing; those dogs will run to the fence and smell him without



Zelda is the perfectly trained dog of Daniel Makara.

jumping on or intimidating him. If your dog has a fearful or negative reaction, increase your distance from the fence until your dog finds his comfort zone.

Eventually you will want your dog to interact with other dogs, and I highly recommend controlling the environment when this time comes. That means letting your dog interact with only one dog at first (not tossing him into the dog park to roam). Both dogs should be leashed in case things get rough, so that they can be separated easily. This “introduction” should be done in a secure area where there aren’t a lot of distractions - like squirrels or other dogs.

After this goes well, you can keep increasing your dog’s interactions with other dogs until you have the friendliest, happy-go-lucky, dog-loving dog around! Socialization isn’t simple...it’s a time-consuming process.

In my in-home training lessons with a dog-aggressive dog, one of my favorite sessions is when we go to a grassy area outside a dog park and practice basic obedience commands. The dog learns that even though other dogs are nearby, he doesn’t have to react defensively or aggressively. Learning to have self-control in the presence of other dogs is particularly important for older dogs with anxiety-related aggression issues.

If you would like to learn more about my in-home dog training or my in-home puppy training, please email me at daniel@rockstardogtraining.com or visit www.rockstardogtraining.com. Aside from specializing in dog aggression and anxiety, I also offer in-home dog sitting (perfect for holiday vacations!) and dog walking. For more details, call 800-649-7297. •

Daniel Makara is the owner of Rockstar Dog Training.

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Silent Victims of Civil Unrest

By Perry Haan

Most of the media coverage of last month's civil unrest in Ferguson, Missouri focused on the legal issues leading to the protests and rioting after a grand jury decided not to indict a white police officer who shot a black man. What the media did not spend much time reporting was the massive loss of property for small business owners caused by the riots.

Devastating Effects

In the aftermath of the November 24 ruling, 12 businesses were burned to the ground. It was reported that the windows of almost every storefront where the incident took place had been smashed. Other nearby businesses were looted in the subsequent nights. No estimate of the total damage done has been reported. Insurance will help pay for some of the damage for some businesses, but not all.

Possibly more devastating for the community are the long-term consequences for businesses deciding whether or not to rebuild. The area was already suffering from the rioting last summer after the shooting occurred. Business owners reported as much as an 80% decrease in sales since the August unrest.

Entrepreneurs know there is risk involved in starting a business. The term entrepreneur is defined as someone who takes risks. But it would be difficult for any entrepreneur to imagine that such massive property damage could occur

to their businesses in an American city. There is little the owners of these businesses could do to anticipate or stop the damage while police and National Guard stood by and watched.

Business owners in the area had been told not to worry about a repeat of the August rioting. Jay Kanzler is the attorney for four owners whose businesses were burned down. "We were told in meetings by the Justice Department and through other people that there was a plan, that we would not be abandoned this time, that people would not be able to destroy property," Kanzler said.

Kaye Mershon owns a barbershop in the area. On the night of the grand jury announcement, someone threw a Molotov cocktail into the shop. Some of her customers put the fire out. "We were all told that policing was going to take place," Mershon said. "But when I arrived, they were standing out here. No one was doing anything; they weren't policing."

For those who invested their time, money and effort into running a business, it is easy to understand why they might give up and move somewhere else.

"I feel scared about my business," stated Rokhaya Biteye, owner of Daba African Hair Braiding in Ferguson. She said profits have been reduced to almost nothing since the shooting in August. "I don't think it will work anymore," she said. She has no insurance.

Ferguson is not the only place where economies have been affected in the

long term. In the 10 years after the 1992 Los Angeles riots, the city lost nearly \$4 billion in sales, according to research conducted by Victor Matheson of College of the Holy Cross and Robert Baade of Lake Forest College.

"Social unrest can have a lasting negative impact on a local economy in a way that's much more persistent than even a natural disaster," Matheson stated.

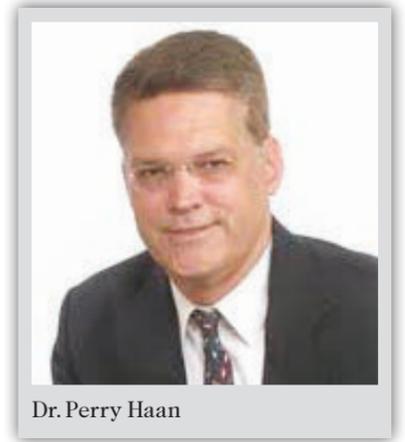
One group of small business owners in Ferguson took the situation into their own hands after the grand jury ruling. Owners of a tattoo parlor and gun shop in a strip mall 10 minutes north of where most of the property was destroyed armed themselves and spent the next several nights protecting their property.

"We didn't want them coming in here and then running around with a bunch of free guns," said Adam Weinstein, owner of County Guns in Ferguson. "Police officers are wonderful people to have around, but they can't be everywhere. In the end, you are your own first responder and the provider of your own self-defense."

Ripple Effects

While these are dramatic examples of how businesses in Ferguson were affected, there are also less obvious ripple effects. Protests around the country in the days after the grand jury decision shut down roads, including major interstates.

The Shoreway in downtown Cleveland was stopped briefly the day after the decision. While the local media was trumpeting this non-violent protest,



Dr. Perry Haan

there was probably a number of small business people stuck in that traffic trying to make a delivery or going to see a client or just trying to get home. These entrepreneurs had nothing to do with the events in Missouri.

Nobody makes an entrepreneur start a business and take on the associated risks. However, it seems reasonable for entrepreneurs who pay taxes and provide jobs to expect some level of protection from the government from abhorrent behavior. Of course these entrepreneurs are not going to organize a protest...they are too busy running their businesses! •

Dr. Perry Haan is Professor of Marketing and Entrepreneurship and former Dean of the Business School at Tiffin University. He resides in Rocky River and can be reached at 419-618-2867 or haanpc@tiffin.edu.

Shelini's Fine Jewelry Treasures

By Christopher Shelini

Christopher and Vera Shelini recently established Shelini's Treasures, a fine jewelry store located at 17810 Detroit Avenue. The store provides quality items at manufacturer and wholesale prices. "Our goal is to give quality back to the consumer."

One of the most profound markups in the country is in the jewelry industry. Thus, the Shelinis established "Shelini's Treasures" in Lakewood specifically to offer fine jewelry at reduced prices. "Many people avoid fine jewelry because of the high prices, especially on diamonds and gemstones. Until some traffic comes through our store, nobody will know about our pricing policy."

The Shelinis have access to the same manufacturers and quality of items that are found in the major jewelry chains. "We don't believe in over-pricing, it is everything that is wrong in the retail industry. We are here to provide a long overdue service to the community." Items that typically sell for \$800 are on

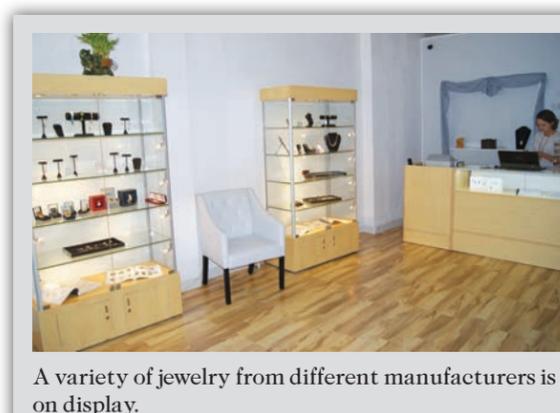
the shelf in Shelini's Treasures for \$300. This scenario holds true for all items in all ranges, styles, etc. "Wait until you see what we'll do with personalized specially-ordered engagement rings."

The Shelinis took a unique approach in developing their store. They do not carry a massive overhead, inventory is kept low, and there are a handful of items from a variety of manufacturers on display. This allows people to see what is obtainable, as well as how affordable it can be. Of course, this still means over 10 shelves of items that are for sale. There is still plenty to choose from in the store.

"We don't want to pressure people into a decision, we want them to feel at ease. We will simply assist people in their search through the nearly unlimited inventory available, or, most important, allow them to build the perfect ring." Per your description, the Shelinis can electronically piece together a ring that matches your specifications.

The Shelinis have added even more discounts for the holiday season. It is the real deal. You can call 216-744-7700 to set up an appointment or for more information or email shelinisjeweler@gmail.com. Stop in at any time, no appointments required. "Just stop in and see what we can do for you, you will be shocked." •

Christopher and Vera Shelini are the owners of Shelini's LLC and Shelini's Treasures.



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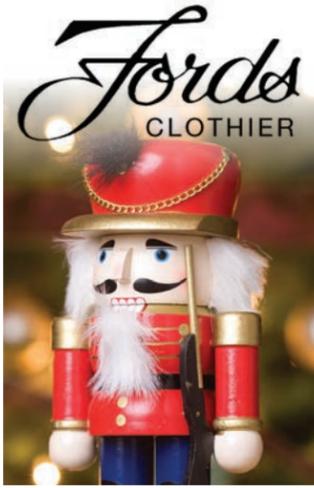


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Holiday Tips for Seniors

By Cara Gallagher

The holidays are a hectic time of the year for many, and we want to make sure that the season is enjoyable for seniors. If you are a senior, the following tips should help you prepare for the holidays so that you can fully enjoy the time you spend with family and friends.

- The first thing you need for the holidays is a plan. Make a schedule of events and plan for these celebrations. Try not to overextend yourself. Many invitations will go out for the holiday season. Don't feel like you are obligated to attend every event, especially if an event is expected to

go late into the night. It is alright to say "no" sometimes. Know your limitations and plan accordingly.

- In addition to having a plan, get some rest. Make sure you get plenty of sleep. Sometimes it can be overwhelming to attend several events. You should try to relax and take it easy. You don't want to overdo it.
- If you are attending a holiday party, you might want to eat a little something beforehand. Don't go on an empty stomach. Some events may serve only appetizers and not a full meal. Be prepared by having a snack or light meal before you go. That way you can relax and enjoy the gathering without feeling hungry or even famished. Remember to bring along your scheduled prescriptions, so that you can stay on your medication schedule. You don't want to skip a dose of your medicine.
- If you are traveling over the holidays, make sure you have a list of your medications, the number of your

doctor and anything else you might need in an emergency. Prepare for any delays and travel with enough medicine and supplies for a couple of extra days. Make sure you allow yourself enough time to get to your destination, so that you don't feel rushed or hurried. Airports and highways may be congested, be prepared to wait and be patient. Travel delays are often out of our control. Try and stay calm and allow yourself plenty of time to get to your destination.

- Lastly, watch the weather. The drop in temperature or the accumulation of snow can hinder your holiday plans. Dress appropriately for whatever the weather may bring. If you are going to a party or even if you are going holiday shopping, make sure you are comfortable and dressed properly. Dress in layers so you can remove an article of clothing if you get overheated. Be especially careful in ice and snow and make sure you have the proper outerwear. Bring along a cane for assistance. Stay safe

in the cold elements and be prepared for sudden changes in the weather.

Hopefully, by following some of these suggestions, you can stay safe and healthy throughout the holiday season. Remember that the reason for all these gatherings is to enjoy time with your family and friends. Hope you have a wonderful holiday!

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Cara Gallagher is a Client Relations Manager for Seniors Helping Seniors in Fairview Park.



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HEALTH

Wellness Doc A Healthy Holiday Wish!

By Bryan Ruocco

This time of year is a time when families get together to celebrate the holidays. As we gather ourselves around the dinner table, the most common discussions are usually about one's health. Sharing doctor experiences, along with health challenges, becomes a very common practice, unfortunately.

This month I would like to share with you the greatest holiday wish - a wish for your good health. Good health is something we should never take for granted, nor should we search for it only when it is lost. To truly understand health, we must understand how God created us and how incredible we truly are.

Your nervous system is the powerhouse of your body. It is also the very first organ to develop in the human body after conception, as it is the master control center of all body functions. Nerve impulses are produced in the brain and are sent down through the spinal cord, exiting the cord at different levels to supply life to every cell, tissue, and organ.

Optimize the expression of the nervous system and you have your best chance at

being healthy and functioning at your best. Completely remove the body's nerve supply and you die. It's just that simple.

The Spine

In fact, your central nervous system is so vital to your health and well-being that it is completely protected by bone. Your brain is housed inside a built-in helmet called the skull and the spinal cord lies within the bony spinal column, just as a trunk line of wires would be housed inside a protective conduit.

But there are a couple major distinctions between the spinal column and a solid conduit. First, the spine is segmented into smaller bones that stack together to form a column. Secondly, there are tiny openings between these bones to allow for spinal nerves to exit. This ingenious design is essential for mobility and for the transport of life from the brain down. But it also allows for the small bones that make up the spine to kink or shift out of position.

Every day we put stresses on our bodies that can adversely affect our posture and our structural stability. Day by day the way you sit, stand, sleep, lift,

work at your job, etc. might not seem like such a stress to your spine, but after weeks, months, and years of the same repetitive activities, the body begins to break down.

When spinal bones misalign and pinch off vital nerve flow and life within the body, chiropractors call this a subluxation. The purpose of chiropractic is to "adjust" the subluxation back into its proper position, thereby allowing the maximum expression of life from the brain into every part of the body.

Most of the spine's nerve roots are made up of motor nerves that run the body rather than pain receptors. Therefore, the gradual misalignment of spinal bones often goes unnoticed until the end stage when pain or other symptoms finally develop. Contrary to what traditional health care teaches us, the symptom is not the problem, but rather a by-product of the true underlying cause. Taking medication to cover the symptoms is like slapping a coat of paint on a crumbling foundation. Not only is it ineffective, but it also can be downright dangerous.

One of the missing pieces in the path to true health today lies in the



Dr. Bryan Ruocco

understanding of this incredible nerve system and the life within the human body. It is our goal to optimize the full expression of life within the human frame through the integrity of one's nerve system. That is the goal of chiropractic. •

Dr. Bryan Ruocco is a local chiropractor and wellness advocate. He owns and operates the Power of LIFE Wellness Center located in Rocky River. Dr. Ruocco graduated from the Life Chiropractic College in Marietta, GA. He graduated in the top of his class and received Magna Cum Laude Honors.

What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace.

—Agnes M. Pahro

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This time of year, we often take time to celebrate life and make memories with loved ones. It's also a time to honor and remember those who have died. Grief is a natural and necessary process, but it can be one of the most difficult experiences we face in life. Hospice of the Western Reserve can help. Our Elisabeth Severance Prentiss Bereavement Center is here for anyone who has experienced a loss through death—even if you haven't directly received our hospice services. Attend a group, explore online grief discussions, download resources, reach out to us and choose the hospice of choice.

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11 p.m.
Choral Eucharist
The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., preaching

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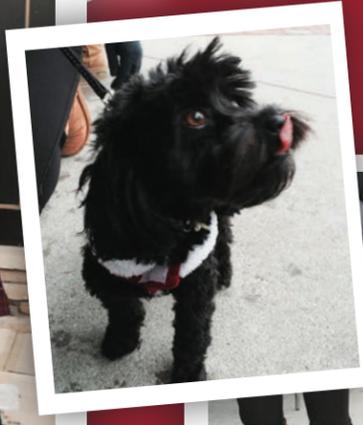


HOLIDAY EVENTS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ROCKY RIVER'S

Holiday Walk

DECEMBER 6, 2014



Westshore Council of Governments Meeting of November 12

By LWV observers Nikki Salupo (Fairview Park) and Kathy Kosiorek (Lakewood)

This report is not an official LWV statement. Mayor Patton's office prepares official minutes, which are posted on Fairview Park's website.

RTA: County Council may discuss a tax increase for RTA. Much discussion of the new Clifton Boulevard shelters. Amenities encourage ridership. Lakeshore Express buses will come every 10 minutes for two hours in the morning and evening. During those hours, there will be dedicated bus lanes. Mayor Patton stated that Fairview Park is home to an RTA transfer station on Center Ridge but has received no benefits from RTA. Many residents depend on bus services and would appreciate similar shelters along Lorain Avenue. A better working relationship between Fairview Park and RTA is needed.

NOACA: Mayor Sutherland stated the Committee on House Affairs will meet November 14. Geauga County may either pull out or divide its representation into urban and rural. According to Mr. Greenspan (District 1 County Councilman), a Columbia Road development project has been added for the next funding cycle.

Land Bank: Mayor Kennedy asked for lists of commercial, industrial, and residential properties that may qualify. Mr. Greenspan stated that the county also has grant and low-interest loan money.

Cuyahoga County Mayors & City Managers Association: Mayor Sutherland stated that a conference call about HB5 was held while the legislature was in session. The Association has withdrawn opposition to this bill.

Suburban Water Council: Mayors Bobst's and Patton's terms will expire December 31. They agreed to continue to represent WCOG members. The mayors

agreed that the City of Cleveland should not be setting the agenda. Suburban communities should have more input.

Financial Reports: Reports were approved. There is a cash balance of about \$500,000 and a budget of about \$250,000. A lawsuit involves over \$1 million; if favorable to the communities, the recovered money will go into the law enforcement trust.

Clean Fuels: Mayor Summers stated RTA is considering a high-speed fueling station at the Triskett Road facility. The investment will be about \$4 million. Fuel savings are estimated at 30% if city vehicles are converted to natural gas.

EMT Protocols: Mayor Summers voiced concern that SWAT teams' medical protocols differ among cities. Fire chiefs will be invited to the December 10 WCOG meeting to discuss this.

Deer Culling: Mayor Kennedy stated that, after public meetings, North Olmsted will hire a helicopter service to

count deer. Pending Division of Wildlife approval, sharp shooters will cull deer.

Comments by Mr. Greenspan: Road resurfacing money is available. CDSG, a supplemental grant program for community needs, will be introduced at a January County Council meeting. An advanced Geographic Information System will be in place soon. It will share enhanced photos from fly-over planes, which will help with property tax appraisals and public safety evaluations.

The WCOG was founded in 1971 "to foster cooperation between municipalities in all areas of municipal service." All meetings are open to the public. The next meeting is December 10 at 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Fairview Park Gemini Center's Birch Room.

Rocky River Wastewater Treatment Meeting of November 18

By LWV observers Conda Boyd and Carole Zeiders (Bay Village)

This report is not an official LWV statement. WWTP staff prepares official minutes.

Thermal Sludge Conditioning: Sludge removal cost \$185,000 in 2014. The local farm that has taken sludge during the warm months at \$17 per wet ton will stop doing so in 2015. Alternative estimate is \$22. Microwave drying is meant for smaller plants, and the resulting product retains an odor. Thermal drying will result in a \$200,000 increase in operating costs for utilities and personnel.

No Feasible Alternative (NFA): Diversion during peak wet weather requires EPA review. The Eighth Circuit Court has ruled that US-EPA overstepped by putting limits on blending. Ohio-EPA

is studying the implications. The WWTP previously requested a 3-year permit extension (to July 2019) because planned capital improvements would skew the required NFA study.

2015 Budget: The new \$4,978,232 budget is increased by \$253,201 (5.4%) over the original 2014 budget. Of this, \$100,000 is the last of three planned capital fund increases. The WWTP employs 18 people, and Mayor Bobst noted the employee contract has not been finalized. (The Committee adjourned to executive session for ten minutes to discuss compensation.) The budget was accepted as presented. A limited amount is included to cover the cost of employee contract adjustments.

WWTP costs are allocated based on the 2013 flow and strength study: Bay Village, 24.80%; Fairview Park, 15.85%; Rocky River, 25.31%; and Westlake, 34.03%. Mayor Sutherland noted that

Bay Village plans to continue its current \$90 sewer rates for all four quarters of 2015 (vs. three quarters in 2014). About \$120,000 of the projected \$150,000 increased revenue will now go toward its WWTP share rather than toward sewer projects within the city.

Ohio EPA Sludge Rule Decision: Ohio EPA has approved an alternative method of biosolids screening, at a \$650,000 cost savings. New bar screens installed in 2009 have resulted in an average removal rate increase of 160%. December will see completion of a \$595,000 project to clean the secondary digester, which had not been cleaned for 30 years, vs. the industry average of 15-20 years. Mr. Harrington (WWTP Superintendent) noted that the ongoing expenditures for maintenance and improvements that keep the plant EPA-compliant help him make the case for alternative approaches, saving significant taxpayer dollars in the long run.

Energy Consultant RFPs: Four or five proposals are being evaluated. One possible financing arrangement is for the consultant to pay for improvements, then share in the cost savings.

Miscellaneous: David Matty will continue as legal counsel for 2015 at the same rate and services. For 2015-2016, Scott Thomas, Bay Village's Director of Public Services & Properties, will replace Paul Quinn as the fifth member of the Management Committee.

The WWTP is a joint venture among the Cities of Bay Village, Fairview Park, Rocky River and Westlake. The Management Committee includes the four mayors, with a rotating fifth seat. It meets as needed.

Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.

—Calvin Coolidge

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EDUCATION

WYL Hosts 5th Annual Leadership Training

By Noreen M. Kyle

A record number of middle and high school students and staff from Bay Village, Fairview Park, Lakewood, North Olmsted and Rocky River braved the cold and snow to participate in the annual Westshore Young Leaders (WYL) Training event held at the Don Umerley Civic Center in Rocky River in late November. Over the past five years, the event has drawn almost 400 students in the Westshore District.

The Westshore Young Leaders Network partnered with McKeon Education Group to facilitate the invigorating day of interactive training. The quote, "If your actions inspire others to dream more and do more, you are a leader" from John Quincy Adams, was the spur for one activity. In Stand By Your Quote, students examined the leadership styles of others and took a moment to reflect on the quote's meaning and purpose in their leadership roles.

Are you a problem solver, are you a visionary or are you

better at crisis management? Students rated themselves on the different roles a leader can acquire within a group. Helping students learn their strengths



Proud middle school winners showing off their new Ts.

and weaknesses will align their comfort level and abilities as part of a team.

Middle and high school students were broken into groups for teambuilding activities in the afternoon session. Middle school students used teamwork to build towers out of marshmallows and spaghetti. The high school students participated in activities to foster their role as mentors in the leadership growth process.

The Westshore Young Leaders Network is open to all middle and high school students in the six Westshore communities. Join us for an "Ugly Sweater Contest" and holiday party on **Thursday, December 18, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at the Bay Village Police Department. For more information, contact Noreen Kyle, School Prevention Specialist at 440-250-9916. •

Noreen Kyle is an employee of the Westshore Enforcement Bureau, drug task force. She is the school prevention specialist for the Westshore Young Leaders Program.

Thank You

A boy of seven, almost eight
Who couldn't wait, he rushed
His bicycle to the street, didn't
Check lest he meet a vehicle
And nearly meet it, he did.

But the driver had children of
His own, some bicycles too
And knew: sometimes a boy
Doesn't stop, or pushes far
Though he should not.

He swerved and missed
The front wheel, then raised
His open hand to me, his father
As if to say: "We're both lucky"
And I, silent, waved back.

— Mark F. Herron



Cuyahoga Land Bank Featured in New Report

By Katherine Bulava

An estimated 120 land banks exist in the United States, and their ability to adapt to local conditions and needs is helping communities, large and small, address the negative impacts of vacant, abandoned, and tax-delinquent properties, according to "Take it to the Bank: How Land Banks Are Strengthening America's Neighborhoods", a new report from the Center for Community Progress. (Download the report)

While the report studies 67 land banks in total, the Cuyahoga Land Bank whose headquarters are in Cleveland, Ohio is one of only seven land banks featured in an in-depth portrait.

"What we found confirms that land banks are not one-size-fits-all," said Kim Graziani, vice president and director of national technical assistance at the Center for Community Progress, who oversaw the research.

The report finds that local factors, such as the scale of vacancy and abandonment, influence nearly all aspects of a land bank's operations. Land banks vary in staff size and structure, the number of properties each takes on (ranging from a handful to tens of thousands), and the strategies for maintaining those properties and returning them to productive use.

In Cuyahoga County, Ohio for example, the Cuyahoga Land Bank has balanced demolition, renovation by private investors and collaborations with other Community Development stakeholders to facilitate positive land repurposing.

While land banks have existed for more than forty years, they have rapidly grown in number since the Great

Recession, with at least half of all existing land banks established in 2008 or later.

The report also draws on research to clarify what characterizes effective land banking.

"Land banks are created to benefit communities, and we found that a land bank does that most effectively when, first and foremost, it's working with a diverse network of partners in support of the community's goals," explained Graziani. "That could mean basing its work on an existing land use plan, developed with resident input, or on another articulated community vision, but it almost always means that a land bank is responsive and accountable to the community it serves."

The Cuyahoga Land Bank has worked with CDCs, social service agencies, County government, municipalities and faith based organizations to promote stable neighborhoods and human enrichment.

Other signs of effective land banking include transparency, in terms of policies, financials, and operations, as well as strategic links to the tax foreclosure process. Tax-foreclosed properties are considered an important source of land bank property acquisitions.

Even the most effective land bank, however, will still require some level of public funding, the report argues, because land banks take on properties with costly liabilities like delinquent taxes, unclear title, code violations, and severe disrepair, generally in neighborhoods with little to no responsible market activity.

In Cuyahoga County, working with the County Administration, the Cuyahoga Land Bank has been a leader in promoting best practices and policy

leadership in the areas of land reuse and tax foreclosure.

The report also cautions that a land bank is not a "silver bullet." To be successful, a land bank's work must be connected with the community's other ongoing efforts to prevent the cycle of blight, such as code enforcement, delinquent property tax enforcement, and community planning and development.

"Take it to the Bank: How Land Banks Are Strengthening America's Neighborhoods" is based on research of 67 land banks, conducted from 2013 to 2014. It includes a national scan of land banking in the United States and seven in-depth portraits of the following land banks:

- Genesee County Land Bank Authority (Michigan)
- Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation (Ohio)
- Greater Syracuse Land Bank (New York)
- Fulton County/City of Atlanta Land Bank Authority (Georgia)
- Macon-Bibb County Land Bank Authority (Georgia)
- Marquette County Land Bank Authority (Michigan)
- Chautauqua County Land Bank Authority (New York)

"The new report is a deep look at land banking in the U.S. in 2014," said Tamar Shapiro, president and CEO of the Center for Community Progress. "It showcases what's happening, and what works, at a critical time: the number of land banks is increasing quickly, and their leaders are feeling the pressure to deliver results for

communities still struggling in the wake of the Great Recession."

Land banks, as defined in the report, are governmental entities or nonprofit corporations that take on vacant, abandoned, and other problem properties with the intention of either immediately returning those properties to productive use, or temporarily holding and maintaining the properties to stabilize distressed markets or fulfill long-term community goals.

Most land banks are created through state legislation, which typically equips land banks with special powers, such as the abilities to extinguish back property taxes and hold land tax-free. Those powers give land banks a one-of-a-kind ability to free problem properties from a state of limbo so they can be returned to productive use.

About the Center for Community Progress

Founded in 2010, the Center for Community Progress is the only national 501(c)3 nonprofit organization solely dedicated to building a future in which entrenched, systemic blight no longer exists in American communities. As a national leader on solutions for blight and vacancy, Community Progress serves as the leading resource for local, state and federal policies and best practices that address the full cycle of property revitalization, from blight prevention, through the acquisition and maintenance of problem properties, to their productive reuse. More information is available at www.communityprogress.net. •

Katherine Bulava is the President of Hatha Communications.

EDUCATION

FAIRVIEW PARK BRANCH LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

December 8 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. In the **Concept2Business** workshop, learn how to generate and cultivate your business ideas and develop your business concept. Take the challenge and see if you are ready to be an entrepreneur. Registration required.

December 15 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The library will host the six-week series **Encore Entrepreneur**. Join us for **Week 1—Concept2Business**. In this workshop, learn how to generate and cultivate your business ideas and develop your business concept. Take the challenge and see if you are ready to be an entrepreneur. Registration required.



December 16 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Come and join in as we present **Ukulele Seasonal Sing-Along**. Get ready for the holiday season with the legendary ukulele ensemble **The Cleveland Jumping Fleas!** Registration required.

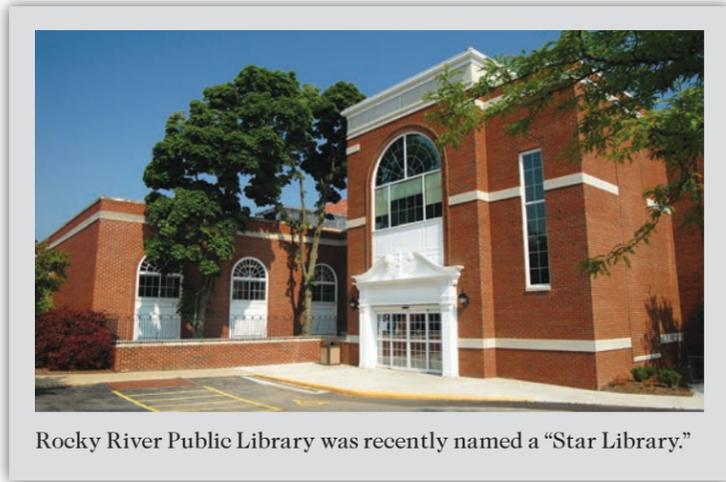
December 17 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Meet local author **Laura**

Peskin. She will talk about the history of Cleveland spanning from the geological time, the last Ice Age, to the financial Depression of 1893. Ms. Peskin wrote the book entitled “Deep Cover Cleveland: 99 Little Known Things about Northeast Ohio”. Registration required.

December 22 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Join us for **Week 2—Business Basics** of our **Encore Entrepreneur** series. You have a business concept—now you need to create a business plan. Learn how to write an effective business plan and determine your mission, vision and values. This workshop will use an online business plan template to get started. Registration required.

December 29 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Explore the many legal aspects of owning a business at **Week 3—Small Business Legalese**, a part of our **Encore Entrepreneur** series. Topics to be discussed include the following: naming your business, licenses, registration, patents, copyrights, trademarks and government regulations. The goal is to help determine the appropriate legal structure for your business. Registration required.

To register, call the Fairview Park Branch Library at 440-333-4700 or visit www.cuyahogalibrary.org.



Rocky River Public Library was recently named a “Star Library.”

RRPL Honored as American Star Library

By Kitty Sommers

For the fourth consecutive year, Rocky River Public Library has been selected as one of the best libraries in the nation in *Library Journal's* 2014 “Index of Public Library Service.” The rating identifies 258 Star libraries, based on data from more than 7,500 public libraries nationwide.

The LJ Index and its “Star Library” ratings rank public libraries across the country based upon statistical performing measures gathered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The index highlights a substantial number of U.S. public libraries whose levels of service distinguish them among their peers.

“We are honored to be chosen again as a Star Library,” said Library Director

Jamie L. Mason. “It shows the dedication of our staff to provide quality services and programs to our patrons. Thank you to everyone who uses our Library. The award really goes to all of you!”

The statistics used to create the Star Libraries rankings include expenditures that relate to circulation, library visits, public Internet computer use and program attendance per capita. Star libraries were recognized in 39 states, with Ohio claiming the second highest number of libraries with this distinction. *Library Journal* is a highly respected professional publication and the oldest one covering the field of library service. •

Kitty Sommers is Director of Marketing at Rocky River Public Library.

Meals on Wheels from page 4



The Thursday kitchen crew dishes out a delicious hot meal for delivery to MOW recipients.

tray that can be reheated later in the day. In addition to delivering meals, the MOW volunteers serve as a “wellness check” for recipients, as well as a friendly face for those who are homebound.

If you or someone you know in Rocky River could benefit from the Meals on Wheels program, consider calling the Rocky River MOW kitchen at 440-333-6298 for more information. A home interview can be scheduled and arrangements made for a complimentary meal. Gift certificates are also available and make a great gift for eligible recipients for the holidays or throughout the year. •

Barbara McGraw has been a resident of Rocky River for 30 years. She has been a Meals on Wheels volunteer shopper and kitchen crew member since 2011.

**I'm dreaming of a white Christmas,
Just like the ones I used to know,
Where the tree tops glisten
And children listen
To hear sleigh bells in the snow...**
—Irving Berlin

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THE GOOD LIFE

The Etiquette Corner
Get Creative with Holiday Tipping

By Colleen Harding

This holiday season, take a moment to recognize those around you and tip. If you don't usually tip, give it a shot. If you do normally tip, do something extra special and creative. Take care of people you normally do and people you normally don't. For example, if the cashier at the car wash treats you nicely or someone brings your heavy items to your car, slip him or her a couple of dollars. Most people take these folks for granted.

The host or hostess at a restaurant may also be pleasantly surprised by your gesture. The boys at Heinen's who put your groceries in your car should be treated too. Your postman - neither rain nor snow... - should also be thanked.

Some of these individuals are remembered regularly, but some are not. Use this holiday as an opportunity to thank additional individuals even if you give only a small token gift. The girl that washes your hair at the salon is rarely remembered. The gentleman or lady who puts the groceries in your bag or the cashier doesn't normally receive anything special. The person who puts your clothes in your car at the dry cleaners would greatly appreciate being remembered.

There are many people in the world who help us everyday and go unrecognized. This year get creative and think about everyone in your life who helps you, assists you and tries to accommodate you. Give them a gift or gesture. Use this holiday to show your appreciation.

Happy Holidays! •

Please submit your questions to Mrs. Harding through our website, click on Submit a new story and choose the category "Mrs. Harding".

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Roasted Mushroom, Kale and Bean Soup

By Alyssa Wiegand



This roasted mushroom, kale and bean soup is both hearty and healthy. Pureed beans give the stock a rich texture without adding cream. Roasted mushrooms are meaty and filling, and the kale adds nourishing fiber and protein. Garlic, rosemary, thyme, sage and parmesan pack this soup full of savory flavors.

Use vegetable stock instead of chicken to make it vegetarian.

Roasted Mushroom, Kale and Bean Soup
 Serves 6-8

Ingredients

- 1 lb mushrooms, cut into 1/4 inch slices
- 1.5 tablespoon minced rosemary
- 5 sprigs thyme
- 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil (try any of The Olive Scene's single varietals, or their Wild Mushroom Infused Oil)
- 2 shallots, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon minced sage
- 48 oz chicken stock (or vegetable stock)
- 2 cans white beans, drained
- 4 cups kale cut into 1 inch wide strips
- 1/4 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese or Pecorino-Romano, plus more for serving
- Salt and pepper
- Warm bread with butter

Preparation

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees. Combine the mushrooms, rosemary and thyme on a roasting pan. Drizzle with 2 tablespoons of olive oil and toss to coat. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Roast for 20 minutes, stirring after 10 minutes. Remove the thyme stems when done.

Heat 1 tablespoon of olive oil in a stockpot over medium heat. Sauté the shallots, garlic and sage until shallots are translucent, about 3 minutes.

Add the chicken stock and 1 can of white beans to the stockpot. Bring to a simmer and cook until the beans are warmed through. Use an immersion blender to puree the mixture or transfer the liquid to a blender and puree in batches.

Return the liquid to the stockpot and add the remaining 1 cup of beans, the kale and the roasted mushrooms. Bring to a simmer and cook until the beans are cooked through and the kale is tender, about 15 minutes. Turn off the heat and add the cheese, stirring until it is dissolved into the broth. Taste and adjust salt and pepper.

Serve with warm bread and butter.

This recipe is brought to you by The Olive Scene in Rocky River. Stop in or visit the store at www.theolivescene.com. Alyssa Wiegand a freelance writer with a passion for food and drink and recipes.

"Hot cocoa and cold toes remind me of Christmas."
 —Toni Sorenson

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ROCKY RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY · CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 9 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Why not come to the Library to Sip, Snack, and Craft with Shannon 'Knitgirl' Okey, fiber artist, founder of Cooperative Press, and author of 13 books! Ms. Okey will be instructing the group on a simple project and materials will be provided. Registration required.



Sip, Snack, and Craft with Shannon 'Knitgirl' Okey on Friday, January 9 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

January 12 at 6:30 p.m. Join us for "For a Woman" as we continue our Indie International Film Fest, featuring selections from the world's top film festivals. This 2013 film from France is an historical melodrama about two brothers who fall in love with the same woman. Enjoy fresh, hot popcorn while celebrating the world of cinema. Please note these films have not been rated and should be assumed to have mature content.

January 14 at 3:30 p.m. Teen Pizza Paggers meet for pizza and a book discussion group! Stop by the Reference Desk to register and pick up a copy of the current book. Grade 7 and 8. Registration required.

January 15 at 7:00 p.m. Join us for the Adult Rocky River Readers Book Discussion of "The Light Between Oceans" by M.L. Stedman. After four years as lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock, an isolated Australian island, Tom Sherbourne discovers a baby on board a boat that has washed ashore. Desperate for children, Tom and his wife decide to raise the girl as their own — a decision that changes their lives forever. Read this beautifully written page-turner and come to discuss.

January 20 at 7:00 p.m. Men's Book Discussion of "A Walk in the Woods" by Bill Bryson takes place. Read this hilarious memoir about Bryson and his overweight friend's attempt to hike the Appalachian Trail. Along the way you will also pick-up some interesting historical facts.

January 21 at 9:30 a.m. Get expert advice on **Protecting Your PC in the New Year.** Join us for our popular computer breakfast series and come away with knowledge and advice you can use!

January 21 from 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The High School Book Club meets. Join us for snacks and lively conversations. Stop by the Reference Desk to register and pick up a copy of the current book. Grades 9 and up.

January 22 at 7:00 p.m. Our TUNE IN THURSDAY series kicks off the season with the **Roy King Quartet.** This popular quartet—drummer, guitarist, saxophone and bass—plays a jazzy mix of your favorite standards, as well as its own modern compositions. You may have caught them at one of your favorite clubs like Nighttown.

January 27 from 6:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Play **Dungeons & Dragons.** Join us for this classic fantasy role-playing game with other teens. Learn how to create a character and embark on fantastic adventures. There is plenty of room for extra Dungeon Masters, too! Grades 7 and

up. Registration required. Locations vary, so call for details.

January 29 at 7:00 p.m. Be part of the **Cleveland Play House Script Club.** It's everything you love about a book club, but with a play in the spotlight. Check out the script for *The Little Foxes*, read it, and register to join CPH Staff to explore the story, characters, and how CPH takes a play from page to stage! This Lillian Hellman drama of ambition and greed in the Deep South warns us to keep our friends close — and our relatives closer. Registration required. Pick up your script at the Reference Desk one month before the meeting and be sure to register online at least two days before.

January 30 at 12:00 p.m. Come over for a **Lunchtime Movie.** Bring a bag lunch and watch a film selected from our popular new releases. Check the calendar or contact us, and we'll let you know what hot new movie we're going to show! Popcorn and drinks provided.

For additional information, call the Rocky River Public Library at 440-333-7610 or visit www.rrpl.org.



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